

By: Patrick

S.B. No. 300

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eliminating or modifying certain mandates on school districts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subsection (d), Section 11.1513, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The employment policy must provide that not later than the 10th school day before the date on which a district fills a vacant position for which a certificate or license is required as provided by Section 21.003, other than a position that affects the safety and security of students as determined by the board of trustees, the district must provide to each current district employee:

(1) notice of the position by posting the position on:

(A) a bulletin board at:

(i) a place convenient to the public in the district's central administrative office; and

(ii) the central administrative office of each campus in the district during any time the office is open; or
~~and~~

(iii) ~~(B)~~ the district's Internet website, if the district has a website; and

(2) a reasonable opportunity to apply for the position.

1 SECTION 2. Section 25.112, Education Code, is amended by
2 amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsections (e), (f), and (g) to
3 read as follows:

4 (d) On application of a school district, the commissioner
5 may except the district from the limit in Subsection (a) if the
6 commissioner finds the limit works an undue hardship on the
7 district. An exception expires at the end of the school year
8 ~~[semester]~~ for which it is granted~~[, and the commissioner may not~~
9 ~~grant an exception for:~~

10 ~~[(1) more than one semester at a time].~~

11 (e) A school district seeking an exception under Subsection
12 (d) shall notify the commissioner and apply for the exception not
13 later than the later of:

14 (1) October 1; or

15 (2) the 30th day after the first school day the
16 district exceeds the limit in Subsection (a).

17 (f) If a school district repeatedly fails to comply with
18 this section, the commissioner may take any appropriate action
19 authorized to be taken by the commissioner under Section 39.131.

20 (g) Not later than January 1, 2011, the agency shall report
21 to the legislature the number of applications for exceptions under
22 Subsection (d) submitted by each school district and for each
23 application indicate whether the application was granted or denied.
24 This subsection expires February 1, 2011.

25 SECTION 3. Subsection (b), Section 34.0021, Education Code,
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 (b) A school district shall conduct the school bus emergency

1 evacuation training at least once [~~twice~~] each school year. The
2 training may be conducted by video. A video used for training under
3 this subsection may be produced by students [~~, with one training~~
4 ~~session occurring in the fall and one training session occurring in~~
5 ~~the spring. A portion of the training session must occur on a~~
6 ~~school bus and the training session must last for at least one~~
7 ~~hour~~].

8 SECTION 4. Section 44.902, Education Code, is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 Sec. 44.902. LONG-RANGE ENERGY PLAN [~~GOAL~~] TO REDUCE
11 CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY. (a) The board of trustees of a
12 school district shall establish a long-range energy plan [~~goal~~] to
13 reduce the [~~school~~] district's annual electric consumption by five
14 percent beginning with the 2008 [~~each~~] state fiscal year and
15 consume electricity in subsequent fiscal years in accordance with
16 the district's energy plan [~~for six years beginning September 1,~~
17 ~~2007~~].

18 (b) The plan required under Subsection (a) must include:
19 (1) strategies for achieving energy efficiency that:
20 (A) result in net savings for the district; or
21 (B) can be achieved without financial cost to the
22 district; and

23 (2) for each strategy identified under Subdivision
24 (1), the initial, short-term capital costs and lifetime costs and
25 savings that may result from implementation of the strategy.

26 (c) In determining under Subsection (b) whether a strategy
27 may result in financial cost to the district, the board of trustees

1 shall consider the total net costs and savings that may occur over
2 the seven-year period following implementation of the strategy.

3 (d) The board of trustees may submit the plan required under
4 Subsection (a) to the State Energy Conservation Office for the
5 purposes of determining whether funds available through loan
6 programs administered by the office are available to the district.

7 SECTION 5. Subsection (b), Section 44.903, Education Code,
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 (b) A school district is encouraged to ~~[shall]~~ purchase for
10 use in each type of light fixture in an instructional facility the
11 commercially available model of light bulb that:

12 (1) uses the fewest watts for the necessary luminous
13 flux or light output;

14 (2) is compatible with the light fixture; and

15 (3) is the most cost-effective, considering the
16 factors described by Subdivisions (1) and (2).

17 SECTION 6. Subsection (b), Section 44.901, Education Code,
18 is repealed.

19 SECTION 7. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010
20 school year.

21 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.